

# *Bohonas* *Male Chorus*

MAY 9th, 1964

Northern Alberta Jubilee Auditorium

Presented by  
ST. JOHN'S INSTITUTE



# The Bohonos Male Chorus

The Bohonos Male Chorus, formerly known as the Ukrainian Male Chorus of Winnipeg was formed in the Manitoba Capital in 1944 by it's present conductor, Walter Bohonos, who is a brother to Edmonton free-lance announcer John Bohonos. This conductor foresaw the possibilities of forming a good male choir from the many talented young men of the city of Winnipeg who wished to sing for the love of singing. It was not hard to find sixteen men to form the nucleus of what in later years, was to become an almost world famous choir.

During the last several years the chorus has made hundreds of personal appearances throughout Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Ontario and the Northern United States. They feel very much at home behind microphones, for they were heard many times over the C.B.C. and N.B.C. in the United States. By special request of B.B.C. recordings were made and forwarded to London, England for re-broadcast to the European continent. The group was under contract to M.G.M. records and are now considering further recording opportunities.

The chorus has had the pleasure of singing under such distinguished patronage as Their Royal Highnesses Princes Alice and the Earl of Athlone, Prime Ministers, St. Laurent and John Diefenbaker and many other dignitaries.

The primary aim of the choir was to present the Ukrainian songs to the Canadian people, but soon folk songs of other countries became part of their repertoire. Songs such as the "Blue Bells of Scotland", "Annie Laurie" and "The Happy Wanderer" became favorite requests of audiences everywhere. Mr. Roy Maley, music critic for the Winnipeg Tribune wrote, "They sang Annie Laurie so convincingly that one almost heard the skirl of the bagpipes." Mr. Frank Morriss of the Winnipeg Free Press wrote, "From any standpoint the choir is first rate, the blend is excellent, the tone is resonant and the rhythmic emphasis excellently planned."

The Bohonos Male Chorus recently performed with the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra under the direction of Victor Feldbrill. They also performed with that same symphony in 1961.

Albertans have a chance to hear this brilliant choir as they perform in concert at the Northern Alberta Jubilee auditorium, Saturday, May 9th at 8 p.m. The program will include many Ukrainian Folk Songs along with such English selections as "Annie Laurie", "Steal Away", "The Happy Wanderer" and "Autumn Leaves".

The guest artist, Edmonton's own Taras Semchuk, Folk Ballet Dancer who appears through the permission of the Actors Equity Association. An Evening with the Bohonos Male Chorus is sponsored by the St. John's Institute.



## About the Conductor

Mr. W. Bohonos a baritone himself was born in St. Julian, Sask. Moved to Winnipeg at an early age where he received his education. He has devoted most of his life to music. He arranges his own music and specializes in vocal development. When not conducting the Male Chorus, Mr. Bohonos conducts the Holy Trinity Cathedral Choir in Winnipeg.

During the 30's Mr. Bohonos organized and did all the arranging for a quartet of which he was a member, called first the "Cavaliers" and then the "Four Toppers". The group performed on network radio from Winnipeg and later went to Toronto where it was recognized as the best of its kind in Canada.

Now with 29 singers to work with Mr. Bohonos has the opportunity to utilize every voice in the chorus resulting in the molding of the finest Male Chorus in the country.

## Members of the Chorus

### (1st TENORS)

Bohonos, Walter  
Saranchuk, Stephen  
Paiuk, John  
Tarnawecky, Mike  
Boyaniwsky, Taras  
Marian, John  
Shawarsky, Peter  
Buchynsky, George

### (2nd TENORS)

Perich, Ted  
Harack, Nestor

Bosak, Ted

Radchuk, Serge

Dudich, Joe

Jacyk, Paul

### (BARITONES)

Popiel, Joe

Solomon, Wm.

Gryniwsky, Walter

Hawryluk, John

Schur, Jerry

Galarnyk, Andrew

### (BASSOS)

Kuryk, Walter

Mudry, Walter

Bohonos, Nestor

Zawislak, Mike

Musick, Myron

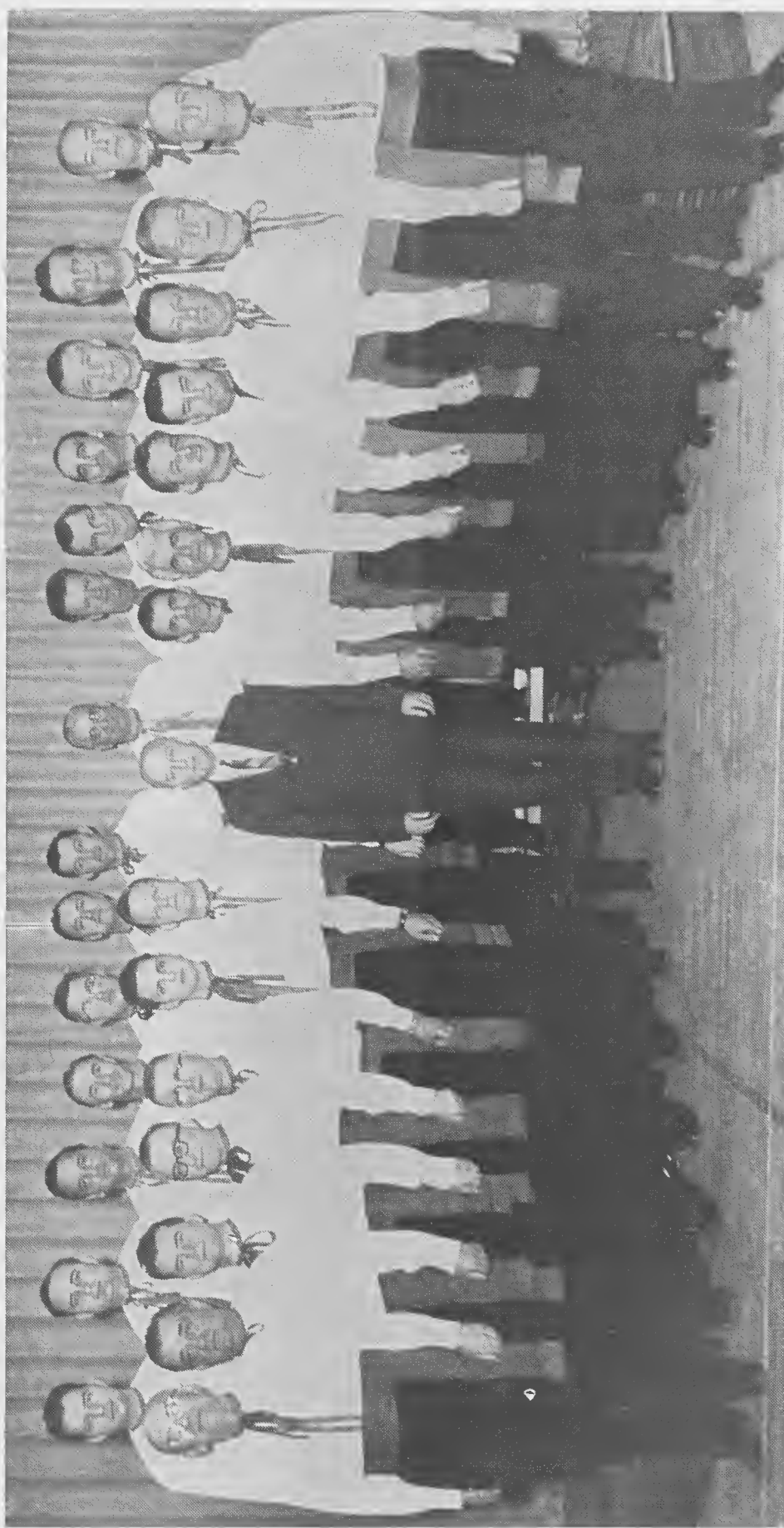
Szutiak, Walter

Bohonos, Wm.

Balla, Walter

Prygrocki, Harry

Stasiuk, Wm. (Bill)



The Bohonos Male Chorus, is made up of 29 Business and professional men from metropolitan Winnipeg, whose hobby is choral singing.  
The chorus is celebrating its twentieth anniversary.

## GUEST ARTISTS



### Taras Semchuk

Mr. Taras Semchuk is a student at the University of Alberta in an Arts pattern. Before entering 'Varsity he did extensive work in the Royal Ballet School at London, England, entering the school on a scholarship. There he performed in "Swan Lake", "Sleeping Beauty", "Aida", and the "Trojans".

Since his return to Canada he has appeared in Toronto and in Winnipeg's Rainbow Stage taking part in the "West Side Story". In Edmonton he was guest artist for the Shumka Dancers, participated in C.B.C. television programmes, and 'Varsity Varieties productions.

### Viki Wynnychuk



Viki Wynnychuk has been active in piano and violin circles ever since she started studying these two instruments. She has been a successful candidate in all her examinations whether it was with the Western Board or the Toronto Conservatory.

She received seven silver medals for violin, and scholarship which took her for further study in the Banff School of Fine Arts and the Stratford National Youth Orchestra.

From then on she developed her many talents in drama, voice and dance. Viki was chosen twice, in the Zone 3 Drama Festival, for the "Best Actress Award" and participated as a member of the Canada Council High School Students' Tour and went to the Shakespearean Festival in Stratford, Ontario. She sang in her church choir, performed in concerts in Vegreville and Edmonton.

These last two years Viki has taken Education at the University of Alberta and worked as soprano lead in Varsity Varieties, took the lead in "Can-Can" for the Edmonton Civic Opera and was guest soloist for the "Shumka Dancers" performance.

In the field of dancing she has worked in concert with the U. of A. Club International, U. of A. Jubilairs Club and the St. John's Institute concerts.

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FROM



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# PROGRAMME

1. Heavenly Father ..... M. Werbicky  
Царю Небесний  
Prayer to the Heavenly Father sung during the Vesper Service.
2. Bless them Oh Lord ..... D. Bortniansky  
Благослови  
Bless them Oh Lord, who honour Thee and live according to Thy word.
3. Cherubimic Hymn ..... Pecherska Lawra Motif — arr. by W. Bohonos  
Херувимська Пісня  
Let us, who mystically represent the Cherubim, and chant the thrice — holy Hymn to the life-giving Trinity, lay aside all earthly cares.
4. Glory to Mary ..... M. Lysenko  
Слава Діва Днесь  
A Xmas Psalm, dedicated to Holy Mary, glorifying the birth of Christ.
5. (a) Crucifixion ..... K. Stetsenko  
Через поле широкее  
This lenten song describes the sorrow and agony suffered by Mary at the crucifixion of Her son Jesus.  
Tenor Soloist — T. Boyaniwsky
- (b) Christ is Arisen ..... Vedel  
Христос Воскрес
- Dance — The Free Highlander ..... Taras Semchuk  
Вільний гуцул
1. Blessed is the Nation ..... arr. W. Bohonos  
Блаженний Народ
2. Let my People Go ..... arr. by F. Waring  
A traditional Negro Spiritual.  
Soloist — Serge Radchuk
3. Annie Laurie ..... Lady J. Scott  
An old favourite Scottish Ballad.  
Soloist — T. Boyaniwsky
4. Autumn Leaves ..... J. Mercer
5. Happy Wanderer ..... S. W. Moeller  
A folk song popularized by the Vienna Boys Choir.

15 Minute Intermission

# PROGRAMME

1. Patriotic Song of Freedom ..... W. Nedilsky  
Засяло Сонце

2. Lament for a Dead Hero ..... S. Ludkevich  
Чорна рілля

Black is the earth and dead is the hero who lies therein alone and abandoned.

3. Departed Youth ..... S. Vorobkevich  
Огні горять

I am old and alone, languishing in foreign land. From my prison window I see the young people dancing and I weep for my departed youth.

Soloists — J. Schur, baritone, J. Marion, tenor

4. Song of the Birch Tree ..... Ukrainian Folk Song  
Ой, у полі береза стояла

This song tells how the young soldiers on the march enjoyed relaxation under the birch tree and sang their favourite songs.

- Duet — "The Coquette" ..... Taras Semchuk, Viki Wynnichuk  
Кокетка

1. I'll Dance no more ..... O. Nyzankiwsky  
Гуляли, гуляли

A young man's reluctance to participate in the village festivities because of the bereavement for his dear friend and his beloved.

Soloists — J. Schur, baritone, Myron Music, bass

2. Song of the Peasant's Boots ..... arr. W. Bohonos  
Чоботи

A gift of a sturdy pair of boots from the son-in-law brings a great thrill to the mother. She rejoices that now she can not only do her chores in the field but also enjoy herself at the village dance.

3. Song of the Happy Plowman ..... arr. A. Koshetz  
Ой, орав мужик

A story of a plowman whose lunch bag was stolen by mischievous maidens. To their surprise they found that the dumplings they had stolen were filled with birds.

4. Kolomeyka ..... I. Hnatyshyn  
Коломийка

A medley of Ukrainian Dance Songs.

Soloists — M. Tarnowesky, tenor, J. Schur, baritone

All choreography by Taras Semchuk

Appearing by permission of Actors' Equity Association.



The former Winnipeg Ukrainian Male Chorus, now called the Bohonos Male Chorus, appearing in a concert at Edmonton's Jubilee Auditorium on May 9. Under the baton of Walter Bohonos, the choir

will be singing both Ukrainian and English folk songs. The chorus was organized by Walter Bohonos in 1944, and consists of young business and professional men of Ukrainian parentage.

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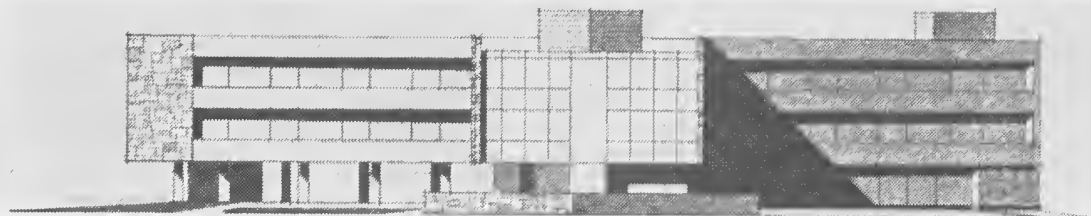
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